

Montana Audubon

ENTARE NATURAL EXPLANA

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1-10-07

NI NO 58 25

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Testimony on SB 25 Senate Natural Resource Committee January 10, 2007

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee,

My name is Molly Immen and I'm here today representing Montana Audubon.

We oppose SB 25 in its current form because, under Section 3, it exempts the harvest authorized by this bill from the state's annual sustained yield level. The annual sustained yield was determined by a scientific study and is designed to maintain the timber resources on school trust land for future generations. Allowing more harvest than the sustained yield—by up to 10%—does not make management sense—and it could impact the health of school trust land forests over the long term.

The exemption from the annual sustained yield could be changed with an amendment. We would remove our opposition from this bill if this amendment was adopted by the committee.